

Japan's Rise as A Naval Power

She Will Soon Rank Fourth In Point of Sea Armament—Her Russian Trophies—Admiral Togo In His Cabin.

THE victory of the sea of Japan placed the nation ruled by the mikado in the front row of the countries that are known as naval powers. Japan in virtually annihilating the navy of Russia and making herself undisputed master of the waters that wash the eastern coast of Asia won a position alongside the United States, Germany, France and even England. American naval experts have already begun to advocate more strenuously than ever the increase in the naval strength of the United States, not because of any fear of war with Japan, with which we are on the best of terms, but because a stronger navy, as it is held, would furnish a better guarantee of the continuance of peace. Several additional battleships will be sent to Philippine waters.

Admiral Togo attacked Rojestvensky with but five battleships in his fleet, although the Russians had seven. Two of the latter—the Orel and the Nicola I.—were captured and are to be added to Japan's fleet. Five Russian ships—the Retsivn, Pobieda, Poltava, Perovskiy and Sevastopol—were taken with Port Arthur, and there is strong hope at Tokyo that most if not all can be rendered seaworthy once more. The battleship Cesarevitch is interned at Kailochau, and it is supposed Japan expects to claim it in the peace negotiations.

Two of the largest battleships ever constructed are now building for Japan in England and will soon be completed. Should all the Russian vessels mentioned be added to her fleet she would have a force of fifteen battleships, three times as many as Togo commanded when he overthrew Rojestvensky. But, in addition to the battleships, Japan has added or expects to add many Russian cruisers and torpedo boats to her naval force. These include the cruiser Variag, which was sunk at Chemulpo, but has since been raised;

Arthur and came near killing the Japanese commander. The fragments were collected and pieced together with cement.

NINETY YEARS YOUNG.

John W. Oliver is Active as an Editor at Four-score and Ten.

A journalist still in active service who almost links the twentieth century with the eighteenth is John W. Oliver, veteran editor of the Yonkers (N. Y.) Statesman. Mr. Oliver recently celebrated his ninetieth birthday. He saw Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, and shook hands with Lafayette. He witnessed the driving of the first spike in the construction of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, the act having been performed by Charles Carroll, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Though his boyhood memories are associated with the men who were prominent in the eighteenth century and the Revolutionary period, he is busy today helping to solve through the press the problems incident to the complicated civilization of the twentieth century.

Mr. Oliver was born in Baltimore April 30, 1815. He learned the printing trade, and at twenty walked from Baltimore to New York, which he reached



JOHN W. OLIVER.

in an almost penniless condition, having only 6 cents in his pocket. But he at once found a position in a printing office, and in a month's time was foreman. Two years later he was running an office of his own. He applied steam machinery to job printing and helped to revolutionize the trade. In 1840 he organized the Washingtonian movement in New York, and in 1842 joined with a brother in organizing the Sons of Temperance. They also published a temperance paper. In 1872, when he was nearing the chloroforming age, according to Osler, he sold out his printing business, intending to retire, but the same day he made the sale he accepted a position as editor of the Yonkers Statesman. In 1881 political influences resulted in his removal as editor, but within a month he had formed a company, which bought the paper, and he thus became its principal owner as well as editor. In 1883 he established the present daily edition of the Statesman. It had been published as a weekly for twenty-seven years previous to that time. In 1899, at eighty-four years of age, he married for the third time.

Mr. Oliver is at his desk in the Statesman office every day and usually does considerable of the editorial work of the paper. His home is three-quarters of a mile from the office, and he always walks back and forth for exercise.

KOTARO DATO.

Young Japanese Who is Studying Art in St. Louis.

Kotaro Dato is a young Japanese who is studying art at the School of Fine Arts in St. Louis. He is considered an artist of much promise and has adopted occidental methods in



KOTARO DATO.

drawing and painting. Although he has been a student at the art school in St. Louis but a year and a half, he has already won several prizes. In view of the popularity of Japanese productions in America, he expects to remain in this country. Speaking of the difference between American and Japanese ideas of art, Mr. Dato, who is a little fellow four feet six inches in height, says:

"In my country we do much different from America—that is, you have long lines of pictures hanging on the wall for many years; we change according to the season and don't have butterflies and lily ponds on the walls when the snow is on the ground or saw pictures when it's hot."

The Son's Kindness to His Wrinkled Old Father

"NOW," said the round shouldered, wrinkled man, who was old and worn out at fifty, "I think it's no more than right that you and I should have a serious talk. You've finally got through college and you're big and strong and healthy. Have you ever stopped to figure up what it has cost me to get you to the point where you are today? In the first place, there were the nights when I had to get up and walk the floor with you. Then came your boyhood, when I had to settle for things that you broke and was kept busy paying doctor bills, for when you were not having the measles or chickenpox or something of that sort you were breaking your arms or legs or trying to cut your fingers off. After you had pulled through that stretch of troublesome years there came the time when your mother and I were constantly on edge for fear you would get in with people who would have a bad influence on you. Then I denied myself all I could possibly do without so that you might go to college and thus be thoroughly equipped for the battle of life. For twenty-three years I've been working and saving and planning for you. I've been watching over you and thinking of you and praying for you, and on your account I've made myself old before my time. But at last you've got to the point where it's only reasonable that there should be a change. I'm about worked out, and your mother's gone to her long rest, leaving you the only one in the world that I have to cling to. I've been doing for you all these years. Now, what are you going to do for me?"

"Poor old dad," said the handsome young giant, taking his father by the shoulders and looking into his faded eyes, "cheer up. Mother's gone, but I got married yesterday to a lovely girl who doesn't know a thing about housework. We'll come here and live with you, and she and I will gladden you with our cheery voices when you come home at night from your work. Evelyn shall make you a soft pillow too. She's very skillful at that sort of thing."—Chicago Record-Herald.

As It Panned Out.

"If every man would take home a bunch of flowers or a box of candy occasionally," remarked the benighted bachelor, "it would make wedded life move along a good deal more smoothly."

"That shows what you know about it," retorted McRobinson. "I tried that once, and my wife promptly went into hysterics over the horrible confession she thought was coming, and I only got out of it by admitting that I was drunk, and I hadn't touched a drop for over three months, by hook!"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

This is the kind of a Story for which the NATIONAL MAGAZINE is paying \$10,000

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